

# Invariants of non-unique factorization

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- 1 there is a *factorization*  $r = u_1 \cdots u_k$  as a product of irreducibles, and
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The point: it's nontrivial.

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$$\begin{aligned}(R, +, \cdot) &\rightsquigarrow (R \setminus \{0\}, \cdot) \\ (\mathbb{C}[M], +, \cdot) &\rightsquigarrow (M, \cdot)\end{aligned}$$



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An *arithmetical congruence monoid* is a **multiplicative** submonoid

$$M_{a,b} = \{n : n \equiv a \bmod b\} \subset \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$$

for  $a, b > 0$  with  $a^2 \equiv a \bmod b$ .

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 $= (3^2) \cdot (7^2) = (3 \cdot 7) \cdot (3 \cdot 7).$

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- This is (almost) the best we could hope for.

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- $\rho(n) \leq 20/6$  for all  $n \in S$ .



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- $\rho(m) < 2$  for all  $m \in M_{4,6}$ !
- Elasticity of  $M_{4,6}$  is *not accepted*.

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denotes the *set of factorizations* of  $n$ .

## A brief aside for motivation...

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*Frobenius coin-exchange problem*: find the largest unchangeable value with coins  $n_1, \dots, n_k$ .

# The set of factorizations: a complete invariant

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## Example

In  $McN = \langle 6, 9, 20 \rangle$ ,  $Z(60)$  uniquely determines  $\mathcal{Z}(McN)$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} m(82) &= 5 & \text{and} & & Z(82) &= \{(0, 3, 2, 0, 0), \dots\} \\ m(462) &= 25 & \text{and} & & Z(462) &= \{(0, 3, 2, 0, 20), \dots\} \end{aligned}$$

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**Theorem (Barron–O–Pelayo, 2014)**

*Let  $S = \langle n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle$ . For  $n > n_k(n_{k-1} - 1)$ ,*

$$M(n + n_1) = 1 + M(n)$$

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Equivalently,  $M(n)$ ,  $m(n)$  are eventually quasilinear:

$$M(n) = \frac{1}{n_1} n + a_0(n)$$

$$m(n) = \frac{1}{n_k} n + b_0(n)$$

for periodic functions  $a_0(n)$ ,  $b_0(n)$ .



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Factorizations are chaotic for small monoid elements,

# Maximum and minimum factorization length

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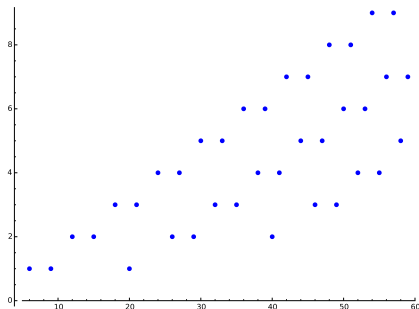
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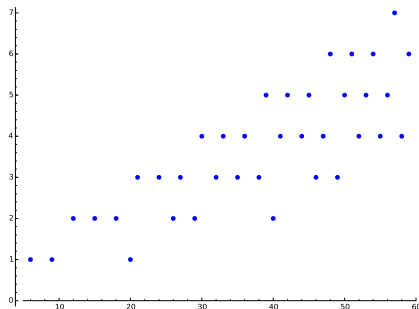
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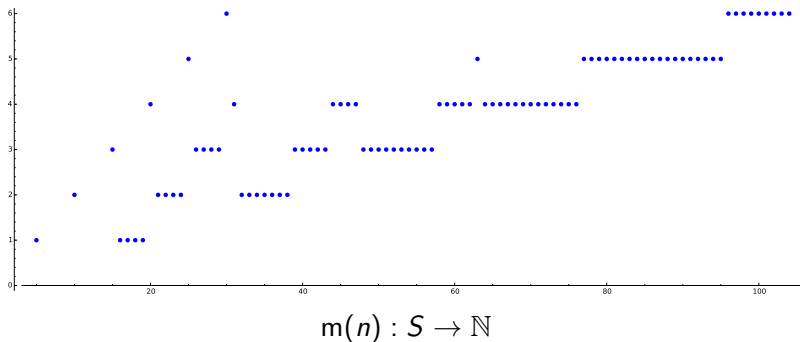
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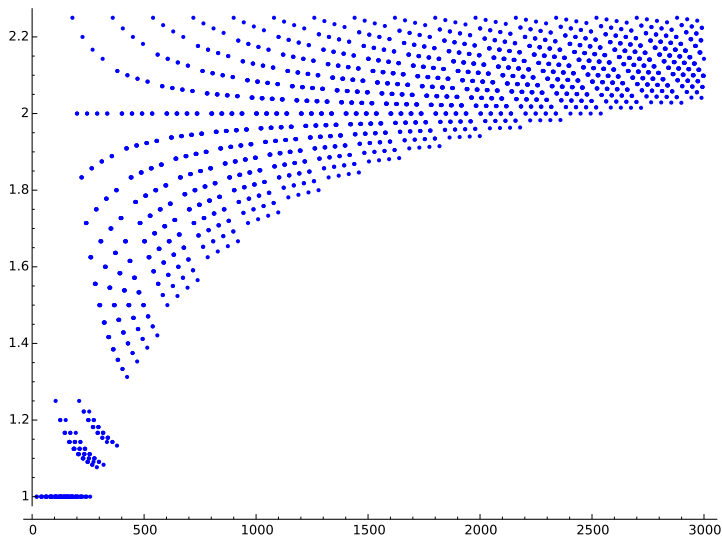
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More generally:

$$\rho(m) = n_k / n_1 \iff n_1, n_k \text{ divide } m$$

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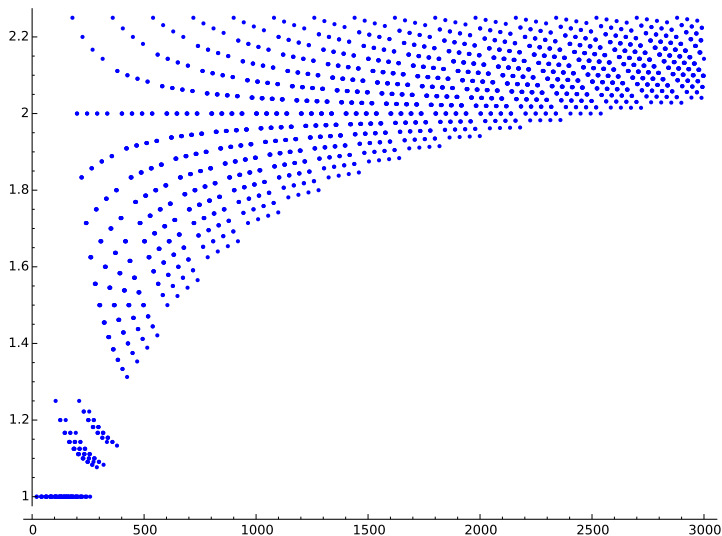
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Aside from finitely many values, the set  $R(S)$  equals a union of finitely many monotone increasing sequences, each approaching  $\rho(S) = n_k/n_1$ .

$$\rho(n + n_1 n_k) = \frac{M(n) + n_k}{m(n) + n_1}$$

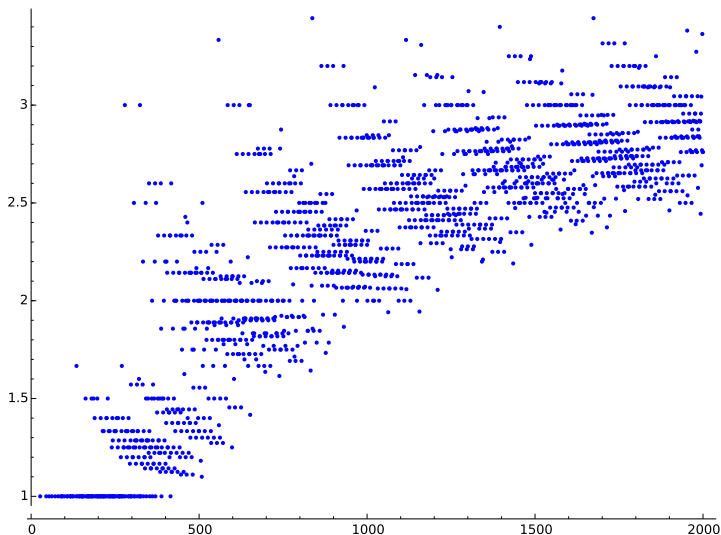
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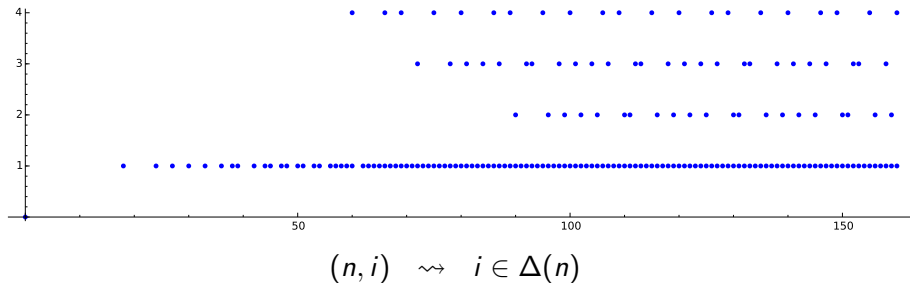
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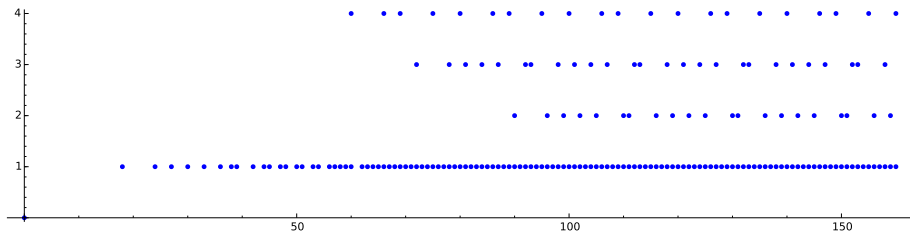
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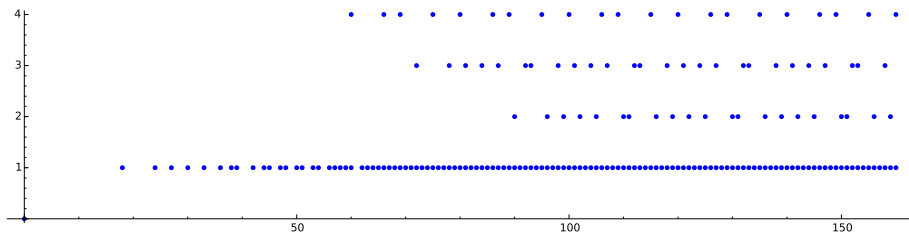
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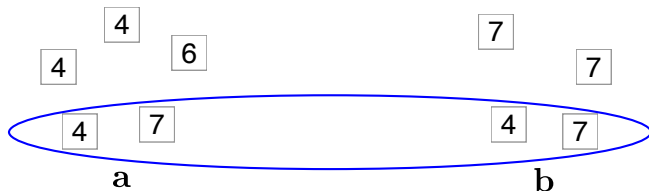
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$S = \langle 4, 6, 7 \rangle \subset \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\mathbf{a} = (3, 1, 1)$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = (1, 0, 3) \in Z_S(25)$ .

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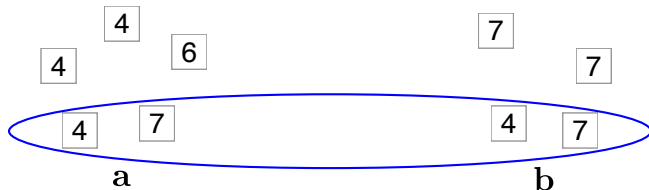
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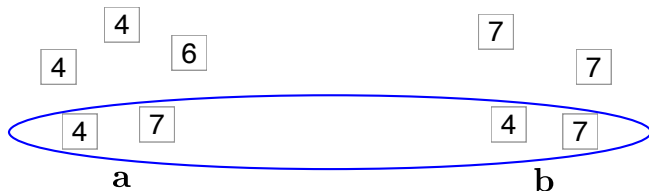
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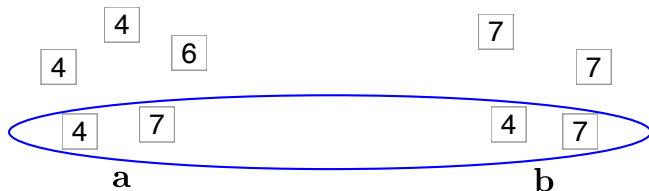
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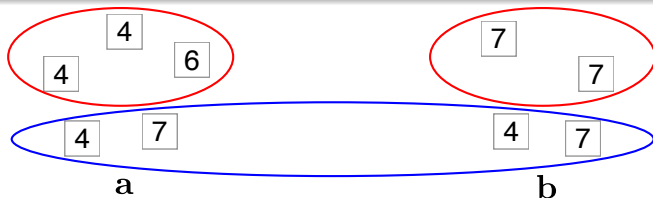
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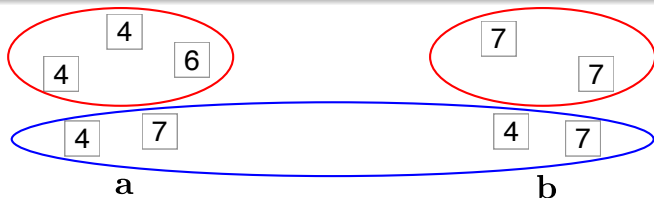
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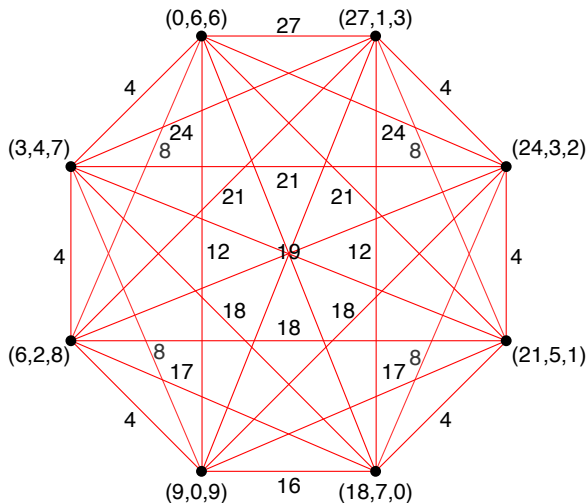


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$$S = \langle 11, 36, 39 \rangle, n = 450$$

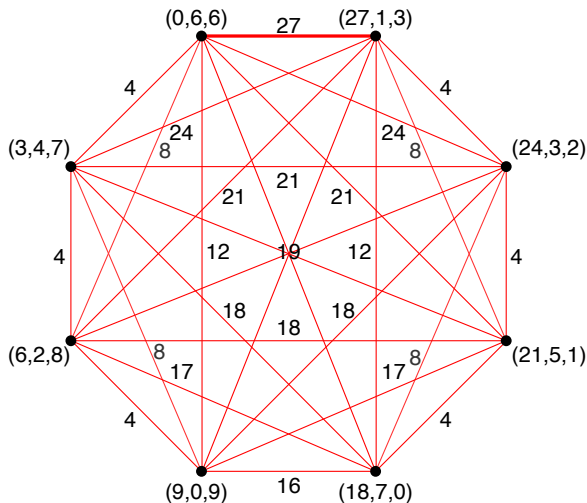
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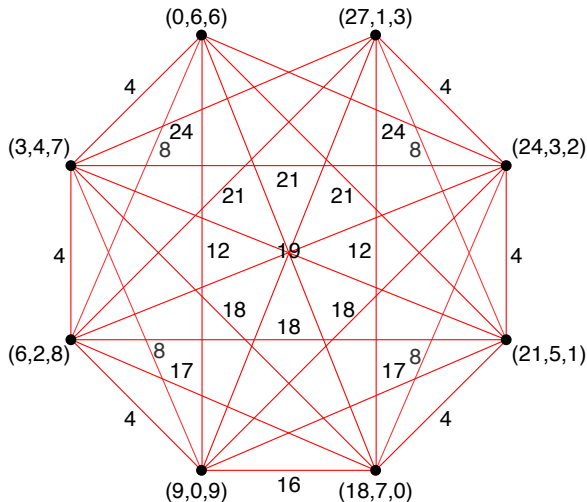
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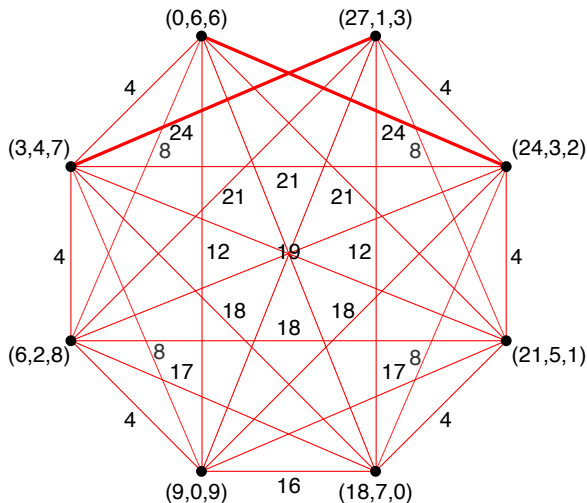
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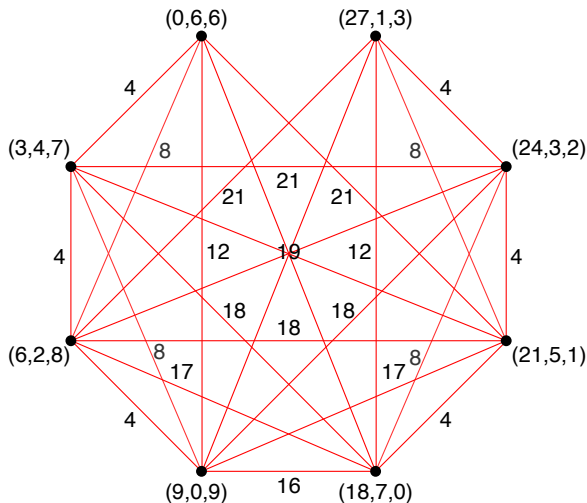
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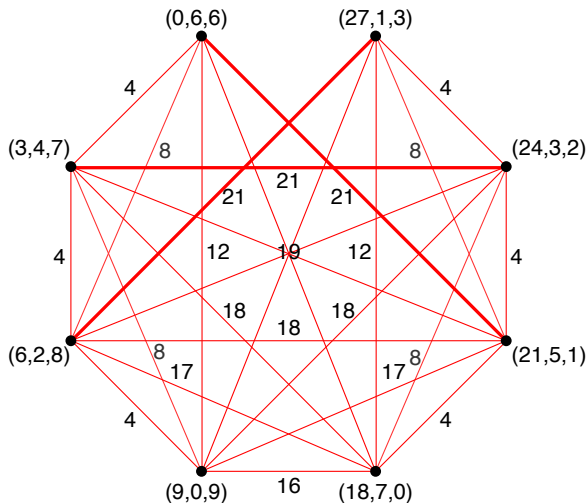
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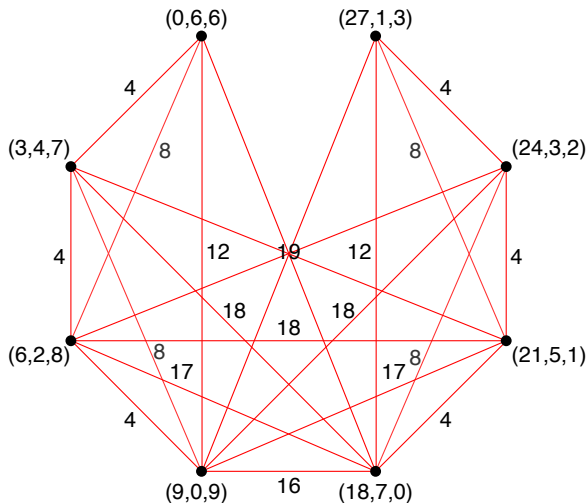
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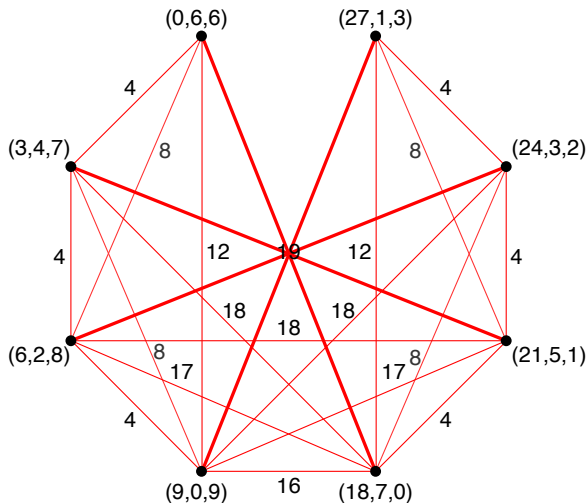
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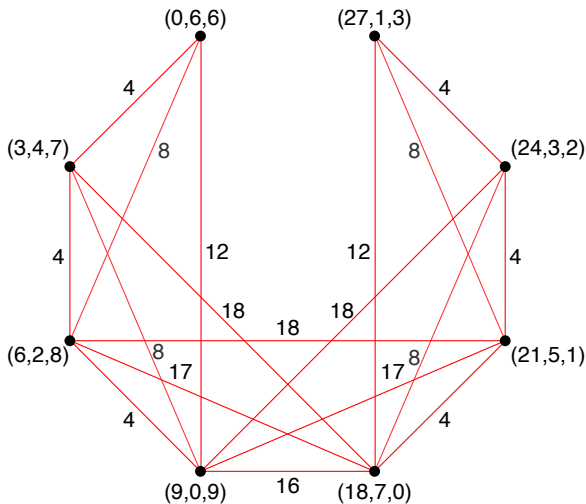
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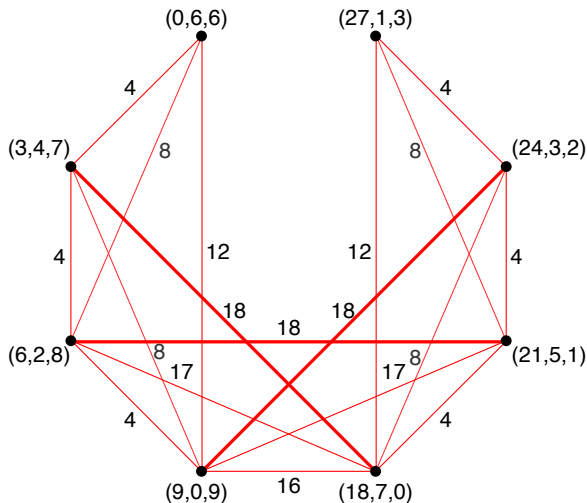
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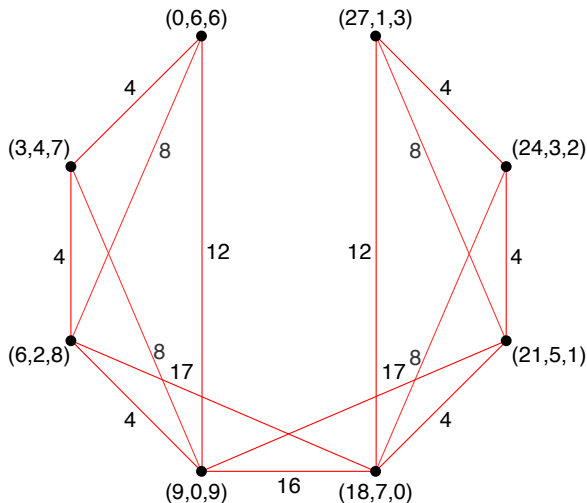
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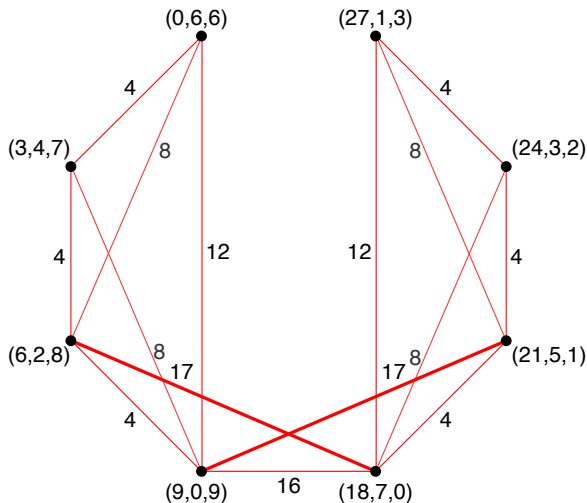
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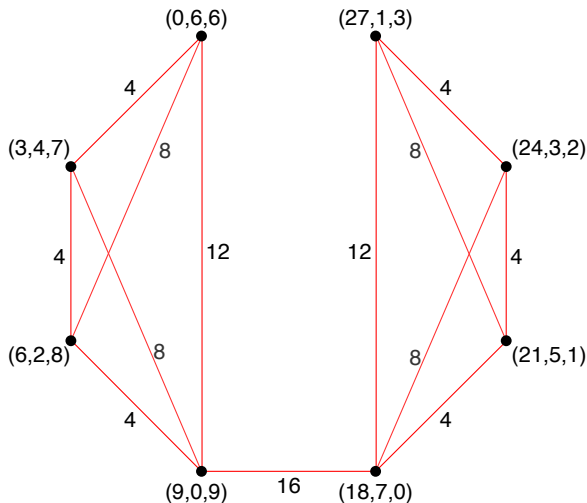
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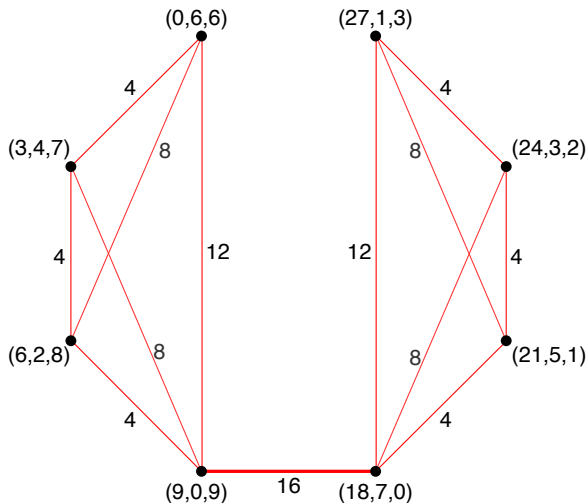
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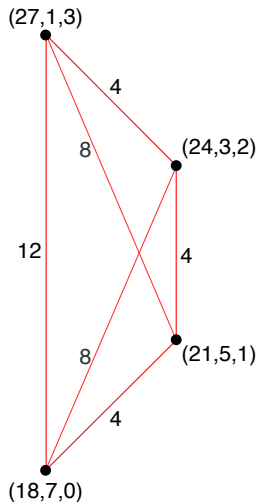
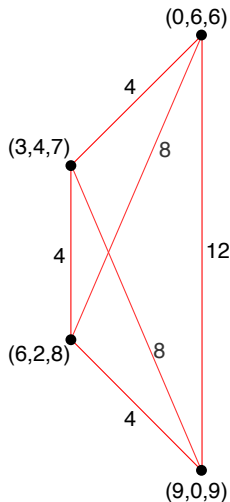
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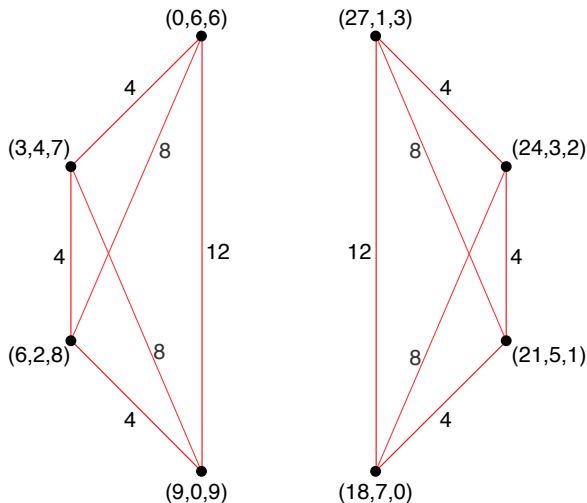
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$$S = \langle 11, 36, 39 \rangle, n = 450, c(n) = 16$$

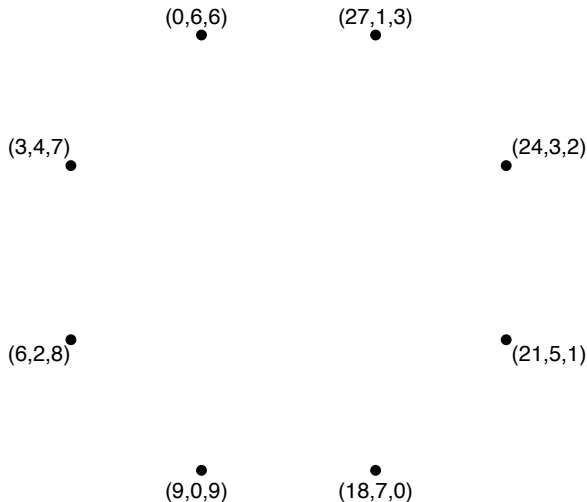


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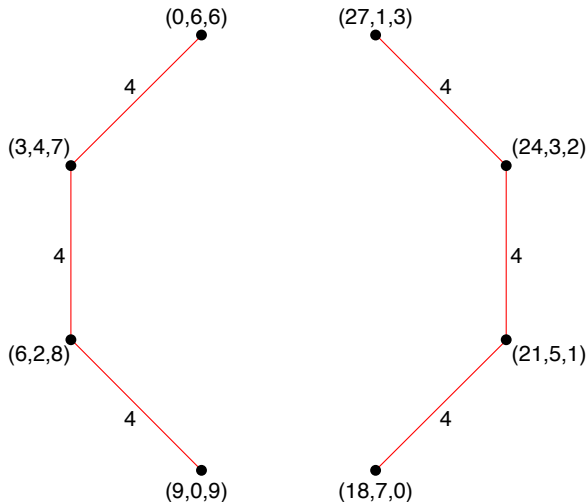
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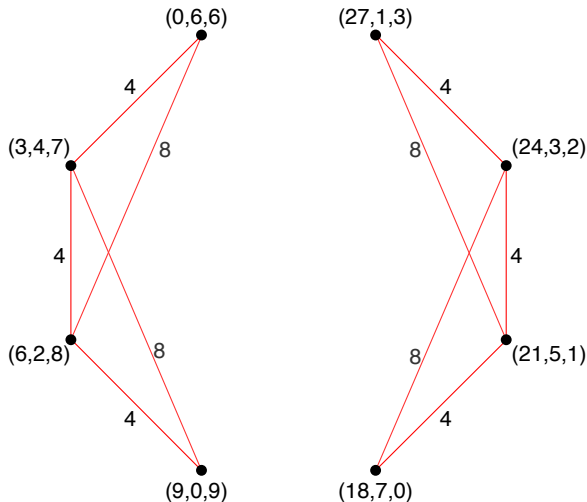
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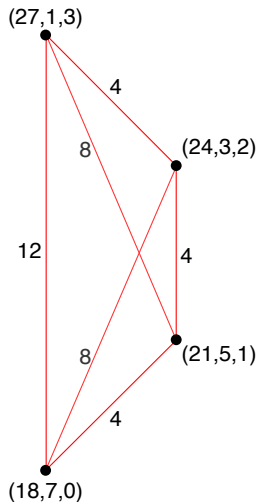
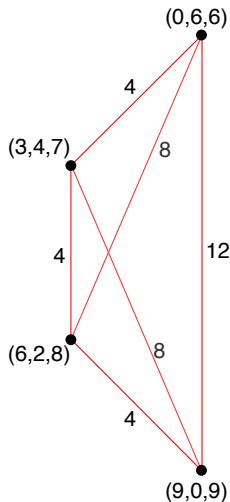
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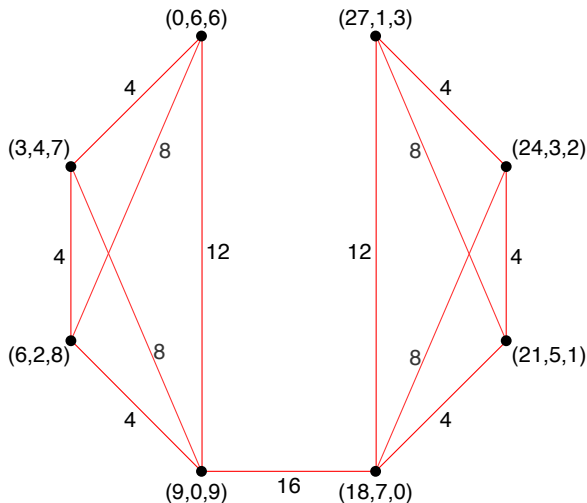
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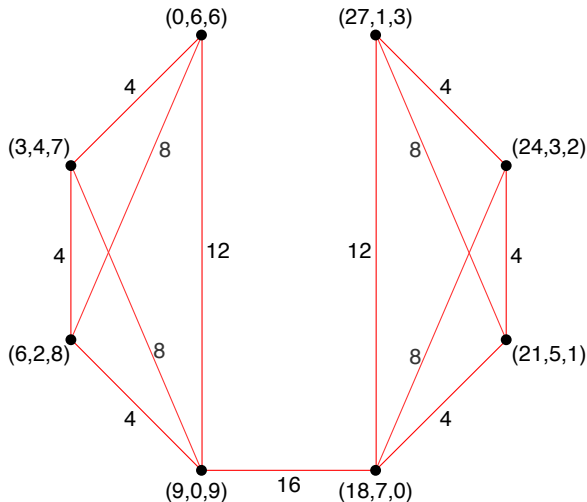
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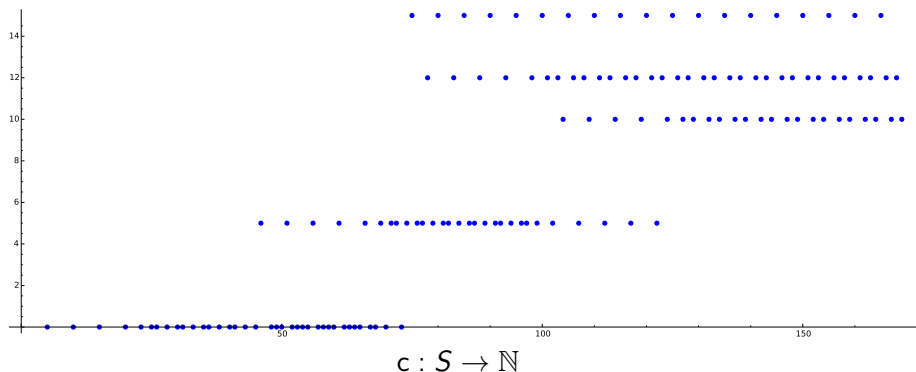


# The catenary degree: eventual periodicity

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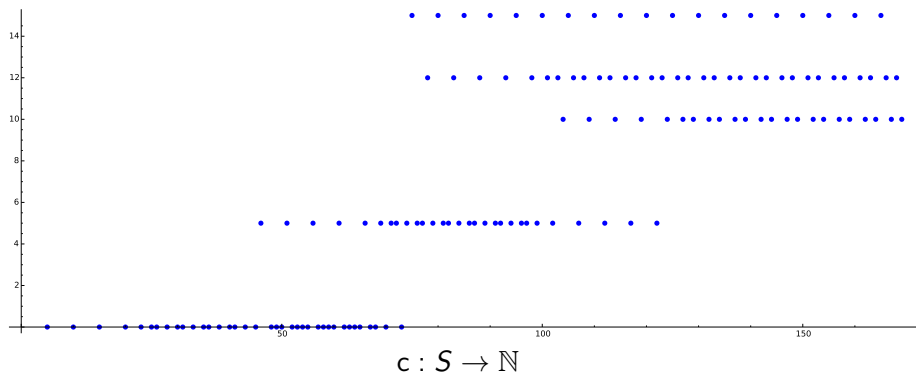
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**Theorem (Chapman-Corrales-Miller-Miller-Patel, 2014)**

Let  $S = \langle n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle$ . For  $n \gg 0$ ,

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## Fact

$R$  is factorial if and only if every irreducible element of  $R$  is prime.

Moreover,  $\omega(p_1 \cdots p_r) = r$  for any primes  $p_1, \dots, p_r \in R$ .

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- “Prime element of  $S$ ” is different from “prime integer”

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## Theorem (O–Pelayo, 2013)

Let  $S = \langle n_1, \dots, n_k \rangle \subset \mathbb{N}$ . For  $n \gg 0$ ,

$$\omega(n) = \frac{1}{n_1}n + a_0(n)$$

for some  $n_1$ -periodic function  $a_0(n)$ . Equivalently,

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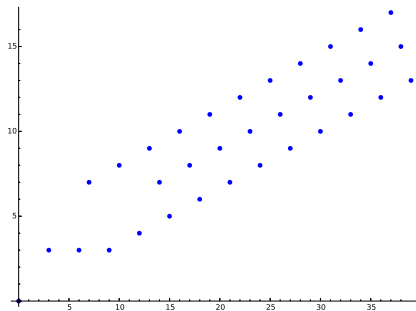
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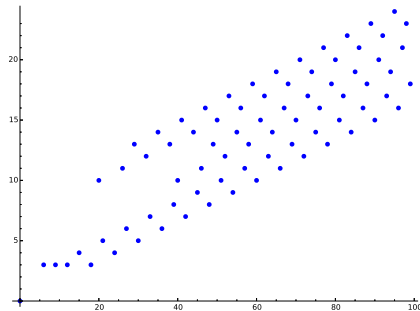
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## Question

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Interpretation:

Factorizations are chaotic for small monoid elements,  
but stabilize for large monoid elements

# Bringing it all together

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- $M(n)$  and  $m(n)$  are eventually quasilinear
- $\omega(n)$  is eventually quasilinear
- $c(n)$  is eventually periodic
- $\Delta(n)$  is eventually periodic

## Question

Why?

Interpretation:

Factorizations are chaotic for small monoid elements,  
but stabilize for large monoid elements

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Ok sure, but why???

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Ok sure, but why??? What's the underlying reason??

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Graded module  $N$   
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Hilbert function  $\mathcal{H}(N; n)$   
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## Hilbert's Theorem

The Hilbert function of any finitely generated positively graded module  $N$  is eventually quasipolynomial.

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## Theorem (O, 2015)

*The values of  $M(n)$ ,  $m(n)$ ,  $\omega(n)$ ,  $\Delta(n)$ , and  $c(n)$  over any numerical monoid are each determined by Hilbert functions.*

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For instance:

$S$  numerical monoid

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Hilbert's Theorem  $\Rightarrow M(n)$  is quasilinear.

# References



Manuel Delgado, Pedro García-Sánchez, Jose Morais

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Thanks!